

HACKNEY PEOPLE'S PRESS

**Pregnant woman
refused by Mothers'**

TURNED AWAY

Bernadette Boyle is 23 and is eight months pregnant with her second child. At when she moved to Hackney a few weeks ago two doctors refused to take her into their books and she was refused admission to the Mothers' Hospital in lapton to have her child.

This is because Bernadette is a traveller. She lives in a small caravan on an unofficial site without any running water or sanitation in Hackney Wick. By chance, she happened to be seen by a midwife visiting the site to see another woman. She examined her and gave her a form, enabling her to be delivered at the Mothers' when the baby was due, but said that she would still have to be discharged in 24 hours after the birth.

Luckily, Bernadette has now been registered with a good local doctor, who arranged a proper ante-natal appointment at the Mothers'. When she got there, a medical records officer told her that they couldn't take an Irish patient. Bernadette told them that she had always lived in the UK, and had only returned to Ireland last year for the birth of her first child. She was then told that Dublin Government "doesn't allow Irish children to be born outside the Republic of Ireland".

You may think that that statement is so ridiculous that it's almost funny, but it shows the enormous prejudice that there is, in the borough and outside, against travellers and gypsies. The "Hackney Gazette", along with many other local papers, must take some responsibility for spreading alarm and rumour amongst ordinary people about the travellers. For they are, without doubt, the most persecuted minority group in the country, and have to undergo more harassment than any other in just trying to live their own lives.

Refused

Bernadette, for instance, has consistently been refused the full supplementary benefit to which she is entitled. She has one child of 12 months and a husband who is in prison and yet she is expected to live on £12.90 per week. Her sister, who also lives on the site, has two children and no husband, and she has been receiving no benefits at all. Bernadette's problems don't

end there, however. The DHSS are now refusing to give her a grant for a sterilising unit for babies' bottles (which they are supposed to do) because they say that the hospital will show her how to breast-feed. Since when have Social Security officers been medically trained to make such judgements?

These problems would never arise if Hackney would face up to its responsibilities, and provide a permanent site for travellers. By law, they are supposed to have done this several years ago, but of course they have dallied around so much that the situation is even worse. Even the Ombudsman has told them now that they must provide the site.

Like Hackney, many other councils have failed to meet their obligations, but this is still not a reason for the delay.

Now there is some positive action being taken to support the travellers' cause in the borough. The Hackney Citizens' Rights Group is contesting the court action that the GLC is bringing on 12 October to clear the site where Bernadette and the other travellers are living. They are also hoping to pressurise the Council through a concerted campaign to provide the permanent site with proper facilities. HCRG is also hoping to organise an advisory service on welfare rights, housing, health and education. If you would like to help, then please contact HCRG, c/o Kingsland High Street, E8, or ring 254 9632.

Club is banned at Nazi HQ

Local fascists who slip down to Great Eastern Street for a quick pint of Aryan lager and a rousing chorus of the Horst Wessell song will find it more difficult in future. For Hackney Council has had information passed to it, from an unspecified source, that the top floor of the so-called Excalibur House, the National Front headquarters, in Shoreditch, is being used illegally as a club. Now they have served an enforcement order on the NF, which requires them to stop.

What the outcome of this is likely to be is hard to predict. The NF have still not complied with the original order that they should stop using the whole building as their headquarters and so the Council now has to wait for the Department of the Environment to fix a date for an enquiry to be held. This could be several months away.

GOING SOON?

There are regular comings and goings at Excalibur House at all hours of the day and night, our Shoreditch correspondents report. Derek Day's heavy profile can often be

seen silhouetted by the front door late at night. There has been a certain amount of interest in the press recently about the possibility of Martin Webster being thrown out of the Front permanently, since he is thought to be responsible for its appalling election results.

As the Front's star wanes, the British Movement's waxes. There is a certain amount of evidence that the openly fascist BM is appealing more and more to the mindless young thugs who were attached to the Front in Hoxton. Some of these were responsible for breaking up a benefit rock concert at the Conway Hall in Holborn in early September, when several people were badly injured and substantial damage was done to the hall.

The legal battle against the Nazis goes on, meanwhile. We were promised a major demonstration against the Front headquarters sometime late this year, but it looks unlikely now. Last year, 20,000 people signed a petition demanding the removal of this insult to Hackney's population, but there is no sign of any attempt to mobilise that kind of support again.



Bernadette: she was told "You can't have your baby here because the Irish Government won't let you."

Golden Jubilee Issue

Next issue is the 50th we have ever produced (gasp, gasp), and to celebrate we will have a host of special features.

- ARTICLES by those around at the very beginning (and who have gone on to find fame and fortune elsewhere).
- RECORDED HIGHLIGHTS from six years of alternative Hackney.

- GUEST APPEARANCES from very famous people living in Hackney (Arthur Mullard, Shaw Taylor...).
- IN-DEPTH ANALYSIS from Hackney's leading intellectuals.

PLUS!
the first appearance of our most deadly weapon yet... Hackney Behind Closed Doors by our new, specially-trained secret agent, Inside Left, the person who can boldly go where no man or woman has trod before. A cross between a mole and Linda Lovelace, Inside Left will penetrate deep, deep down into the labyrinthine depths below Mare Street, searching out rumour, scandal and malicious innuendo for our millions of readers. Look under your beds tonight, those of you with secrets to hide. If Inside Left doesn't scare you, then you're already dead!

ACTIVE TODAY, OR ...



With the film "The China Syndrome" going round the cinemas and the horrific near disaster at the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant in the USA, it seems that public consciousness about the realities of nuclear power might at last be raised for some real protest to take place. We asked Hackney Anti-Nuclear Group (HANG) to tell us about their recent activities, especially those around the showing of the film and the protest against the transport of nuclear waste through the borough on the North London Line.

In the meantime, if you missed "The China Syndrome" then try and catch up with it. It's really a good film in many ways: as a thriller, as an anti-nuke, anti-big business tract. Its main drawback is a rather touching belief in the power of the press (represented by Jane Fonda as a telly-news-caster who wants to be a hard journalist) to expose scandal and malpractice. Not the sort of thing that could happen in Britain, anyway, with the Official Secrets Act, the laws of contempt and libel and the yellow-streaked press we have here. So go and see it - then sign HANG's petition against the nuclear waste trains taking their nasty cargoes through Dalston Junction.

The month of September was certainly full of activity for the Hackney Anti-Nuclear group (HANG). The group took advantage of the Rio's showing of "The China Syndrome" and leafleted cinemagoers almost every second evening. The leaflets met a very positive response and many visitors signed HANG's petition against atomic waste transports through Hackney.

Hopefully, some even decided that it was time to do something to stop the atomic menace and get actively involved in the anti-nuclear campaign. Because nuclear power isn't just a matter of opinion, but in the end a question of life or death.

Thanks to the Rio's policy of getting local groups involved in the cinema, HANG had the opportunity to show two films of its own choosing on Sunday 16 September. "Sentenced To Success" showed the dangerous and unhealthy working conditions in the reprocessing plant La Hague, the French counterpart of Windscale. Apart from constantly being exposed to dangerous radiation, workers in the nuclear industry also lose a lot of their trade union rights and civil liberties.

Everyone got encouragement from the German film, "Better Active Today Than Radioactive Tomorrow". The farmers in

the small town of Wyhl showed, how a united and direct local grassroots opposition was capable of stopping the construction of a nuclear power station.

We too can stop the transportation of atomic waste through London. The only condition is that we, local residents, commuters, and British Rail workers stand

waste. Why not come in support?

HANG has produced a fact sheet on the dangers of atomic waste transportation, available for only 10p. One of the many alarming facts is: if, because of an accident, only 10 per cent of the radioactive material were to be released, an area the size of a semi-circle with



together and take determined action to save our and our children's future from killing and crippling radiation.

What can you do? Why not get a copy of HANG's petition against nuclear waste transport and collect signatures in your street, your place of work or your school?

Every second Saturday morning HANG now holds a picket at Dalston Station to inform passengers and passers-by about the dangers of nuclear

a radius of three miles would have to be evacuated. That is nearly half the size of the borough of Hackney.

Here are a few dates for your diary: HANG public meetings at Centerprise, October 11 and 25 at 8 pm.

Pickets at Dalston Junction October 13 and 27 at 11 am.

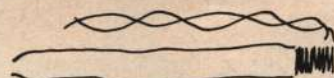
The Hackney Anti-Nuclear Group can be contacted at Sun Power Bookshop, 83 Blackstock Road, Finsbury Park, tel 226 1799.

Fuzz knock heads

by J.Smoke (wow!)

Yes, folks, they really must be knocking their heads at Stoke Newington police station, home of north-east London's highly-paid drugs swoop squad.

As the year's crop near fruition, a man has been found with three plants in his kitchen and there have been other notable convictions at High-bury Court. Another man was recently fined £50 for possessing cannabis, a well-known drug, whilst yet another was merely putting his job in danger as he walked away with a conditional discharge for the same offence.



Despite the Court of Appeal's ruling that "no man could be properly convicted where a tiny part of a drug was concerned", these men had in their possession amazing amounts of the drug, having respectively 26 and 12 milligrams. Now the EEC may have done some nasty things, but let's not be confused by milligrams - 26 milligrams is less than a thousandth of an ounce! And 12 milligrams is much less than a two-thousandth of an ounce. Try smoking that outside Stoke Newington Police Station and you'll get picked up for vagrancy waiting for a high. At least we can tell that operating all that fancy weighing machinery they haven't got time to sit back and enjoy it. All the more for us. Don't forget to roll that expensive roach.

TAKE A SHARE IN THE RIO

The Rio, the cinema in Kingsland High Street which was acquired by a group of community activists to turn into a multi-purpose arts centre, is organising a number of public meetings to discuss its future and the structure of the organisation that will eventually run it. These will be held at Hoxton Hall on 17 October, Mayville Community Centre on 1 November and the Family Centre on 23 November. All start at 8pm.

At the moment the Rio shows mainly films, with the occasional live show. The aim is to convert the building to give better facilities for live events and to provide workshops. The aim has always been to form a company which will be open to any member of the local community to join, so that you can help make decisions as to how the centre is run. The first AGM will be held in December and it will elect a formal Committee of Management.

So this is your chance to bring democracy back to the cinema. If you think that it should show more Bunuel or Walt Disney go along to the public meetings or ring the cinema on 254 6677.



The Rio Cinema, 107 Kingsland High Street, London E8.
254 6677

OCTOBER

Weekly Programmes

Mon 1	For two weeks	ALIEN
Mon 15	For 6 days	YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN and SILENT MOVIE
Mon 22	For 6 days	HILLS ANGELS and UGLY DACHSHUND

Saturday lates and Sunday afternoons

Sat 6	TELL THEM WILLIE BOY IS HERE and LITTLE FAUS & BIG HALSY
Sun 7	In assn with Friends of Astrid Prohl: GERMANY IN AUTUMN. Lord Gifford speaks on situation for political prisoners in Germany
Sat 13	SOLARIS and LES ASTRONAUTES
Sun 14	Celebration of Jazz Poetry and Songs. Mike Horovitz and Pete Brown
Sat 20	FRENZY and MARNIE
Sun 21	HEER RANJHA and MILAN
Sat 27 and Sun 28	THE STING and PLAY MISTY WITH ME

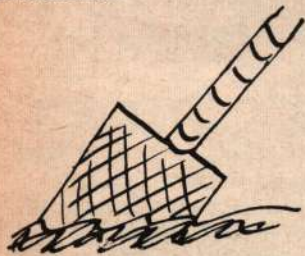
There are Saturday morning pictures every Saturday at 9.45. New season of films: Flash Gordon Conquers The Universe. Don't miss it!

For details and times of programmes, please phone the cinema.

PLOTS FOR DIGGERS

Another triumph for HPP! One of our readers, Jon Fuller, read an item about a year ago about the Council considering letting vacant land as short term allotments. He rang the Council, and the wheels began to grind.

A number of other interested people were contacted and a meeting was arranged. The group then approached the Council again, who then released an official statement, through the Press Office, no less, that they had found three vacant plots that they were willing to let people take over as allotments.



Initially they are willing to hand over land in Mabley Green, E9, next to the motorway, Oriol Road, E9 and the Mapledene Road area, E8. But they want to know whether there is sufficient local interest to justify going ahead. They are willing to help turn these sites into proper allotments, with top soil and running water, so it sounds like a very good offer.

The thing you should do, is, of course, put your name on a waiting list. Even if one of these sites is not in your area, they do plan to create others. So if you would like to start growing your own veg, then ring the planning department on 739 7600 extension 354. If you would like to co-ordinate your efforts with those already started then ring Jon Fuller first on 254 1009.

Jobs Vacant.

CENTERPRISE requires a second worker to co-ordinate its advice-giving services. The person appointed will be expected to possess a working knowledge of welfare rights and to divide her/his time between case work and taking up policies arising out of that case work. The ability to present information that will contribute to a better understanding of welfare rights both within the project and the community is important. First and foremost, the worker will be a general member of the Centerprise collective, and spend over half the week sharing in the administration of the project; this involves working shifts in other areas (including the shops), cleaning and attending meetings. Please send large s.a.e. for details (or collect) to Centerprise, 136 Kingsland High St., E8. Closing date: October 22.

136 COMMUNITY NURSERY needs experienced worker for eight months to replace worker on maternity leave. Closing date for applications: October 5. Write for details to: 136 Community Nursery, Centerprise, 136 Kingsland High St., E8.

WEA PLANS

Hackney Workers' Educational Association (WEA) have just announced details of their autumn programme which starts at the beginning of October. The titles of all the classes were published in last month's HPP, and we are now selecting some of the highlights from what promises to be a full, varied and interesting programme.

"The People's Autobiography of Hackney" has a different format this year with a number of talks from invited speakers. These include Mike Gray on Radicalism and Dissent in 18th Century Hackney, Barry Burke on the 19th Century Labour Movement, Sheila Rowbotham on the local perspective on women and the socialist movement and Bill Fishman on the Streets of East London. These are held fortnightly starting Wednesday October 10 at 7.45 pm in Centerprise, 136 Kingsland High St., E8.

"What Energy For The Future" looks at the social and political causes and effects of the energy crisis, with six talks given by members of SERA's energy group. These start on Monday October 8 at 7.30 pm in Centerprise, and are held weekly.

"South Africa For Beginners" is another series of six weekly

meetings looking behind the scenes at South Africa, what keeps its society going, how racism is enforced and how apartheid is being opposed. The course starts on October 2 at 8 pm in Centerprise.

"The World Since 1945" is an outline history of the competition between the "superpowers" and the Cold War. It will look at the origins of the conflict, various flashpoints (Cuba, South-East Asia) and the prospects for the future. It runs for six weeks starting on October 4 at 8 pm in Centerprise.

In addition, there is a class on "A Scots Quair" (Lewis Grassie Gibbon's classic novel sequence) and the regular meetings of the Hackney Writers' Workshop. Both these are to be held in Centerprise.

There is also a daytime discussion class, "Mainly For Women", at Hoxton Hall, 128a Hoxton St., N1, on Wednesdays, starting September 19 at 10.30 am. These are on a variety of subjects concerning women's role in modern society.

All classes charge a small fee per session (usually 30p) to cover costs, but this can be waived if you are very hard up! Full details from Hackney WEA, 76 Carysfort Road, N16.

Closure fear for Squat Service

The Advisory Service for Squatters (ASS) which is based in St Paul's Road, N.1, is undergoing a person-power crisis and may have to close its doors unless more people can be found who are willing to run the advice sessions. Although there are sufficient funds to run the service, and a large stock of the new edition of the Squatters Handbook, the collective will have no alternative except closure, unless more volunteers come forward.

ASS say that this would be an even worse blow, since in the present climate of housing cuts, squatting will often become the only alternative for many people. The closure of ASS would be a terrible setback for them.

ASS has now been running an advice service for squatters and homeless people for four years. The office used to be open from 10am to 6pm every weekday but has been only staffed intermittently for some time now. When it was operating normally, it dealt with over 100 phone calls and visits per week - from homeless people, squatters and licensees.

ASS gives practical and legal advice. It tries to keep in touch with squatting groups, although there aren't so many of these these days. It also deals with inquiries from journalists from both home and abroad, and has given talks in both schools and colleges.

The main source of funds has been a grant from a foundation, benefits and donations. None of the staff are paid, and the service is operated collectively. Travel expenses are met, however. By the time this issue

of HPP goes to press, the day of the crisis meeting will have passed. However, ASS will almost certainly still need your support and help. If you can do something then please get in touch. For further information ring Harry on 289 1123 and offer him your suggestions and assistance. No particular experience is necessary, as training will be given.



The new edition of the Squatters Handbook is published now and is available in Centerprise and other bookshops price 30p. It has been completely revised and takes into account the new law, the 1977 Criminal Trespass Act, which recently came into force. It also deals with the Homeless Persons Act, finding a place to live, moving in, organising, repairs, eviction and licences. There is also a new section dealing with social security benefits.

Advisory Service for Squatters. 2 St Pauls Road, N.1. 359 8814.

New conference ideas

The format of the next "Whats Left for Hackney" conference was discussed at a meeting in Centerprise on 17 September, when about 20 people from various organisations and groups came together to report on the last conference, organised by HPP in July. It was decided to go ahead with another conference later in the autumn and to organise it specifically around certain areas, to avoid the vagueness that sometimes clouded the July meeting.

The following areas were identified as issues that could be discussed at the next conference.

Communication. This is often poor between local groups, so that efforts such as leaflets and meetings are sometimes duplicated. But on a more significant level still, are there other ways in which socialists in Hackney can discuss ideas and profit from an exchange of views?

Large workplaces and estates. Workers and tenants are often well outside the mainstream of political activity in the borough. How best can the two be integrated?

A local strategy for the left. Many institutions and organisations are still dominated by the right -

not least the Council. Can the left develop a strategy for replacing their ideas with a socialist ideology?

The cuts. Activity around the government's public spending cuts is obviously going to be essential in the next months, and years. Already efforts are being made to organise resistance to the cuts, and we felt it would be a good idea for it to be discussed in the context of a socialist conference.

BIGGER

Although about 150 people came in July, we were concerned that a wider range of organisations could have been represented. So we want to make the next conference bigger and better and we need the benefit of the help, experience and enthusiasm of all local socialists. If you would like to be informed of when and where meetings to finalise the agenda and other details are taking place, then please contact us. We will be publishing further details, with a firm date - in late November or early December - in the next issue. In the mean time, you can contact us by writing to What's Left for Hackney part two, HPP, c/o 136 Kingsland High Street, E8.

ADVERTISEMENT

Join the Party which....

- ☒ STRUGGLES FOR A SOCIALIST BRITAIN
- ☒ FIGHTS RACIALISM IN ALL ITS FORMS
- ☒ CAMPAIGNS AGAINST THE TORY CUTS
- ☒ WORKS FOR UNITY OF THE LEFT
- ☒ IS ROOTED IN THE WORKING CLASS
- ☒ ARGUES FOR TRADE UNION RIGHTS
- ☒ CAMPAIGNS FOR WOMENS' LIBERATION
- ☒ IS A MARXIST PARTY OF THE PEOPLE
- ☒ PRODUCES A DAILY PAPER OF THE LEFT
- ☒ FIGHTS FOR REAL DEMOCRACY

.....and much more besides. The Communist Party in Hackney has 350 members, involved in many campaigns, movements and unions. The Communist Party in Britain has 20,000 members active in all the people's movements. We need more members to campaign more effectively, to learn from, to help us strengthen and unite the working class, the left, the community organisations and all who care for democracy, for people's rights, for socialism. The attacks of this Tory government, and the right-wing performance of the last labour government shows that we need a strong Communist Party to win socialism in Britain. Now is the time to join.

Join the Communist Party. Write, phone or send this form to: David Green, Secretary Hackney Communist Party, 126 Amhurst Road, E.8. tel. 249-6374.

I wish to join/know more about the Communist Party.

Name.....

Address.....

.....(tel. no. if any).....

FIGHTING FOR OUR LIVES

Day of Action Report; And Analysis of Cuts in Hackney

Thursday 13th September saw the most concerted fightback against cuts in East London's Health and Social Services - but it also witnessed the effects of the first round in the Government's plans to chop the Welfare State.

Up to 2,000 people took part in the demonstration calling on City & East London Area Health Authority (AHA) not to implement financial 'savings' in the local health service - savings which would lead to savage cuts in local health care including the virtual run-down of two local hospitals, St. Leonard's and St. Matthew's. The Day of Action, organised by the Save the Hospitals Campaign, Hackney Schools Stay OK! Campaign and a number of trades union bodies, received mass support from both public and private sector unions. Hospital workers, council employees, local government staff and workers at the British Oxygen plant all took action, either picketing their workplace or joining in the march.

The demonstrators assembled at Ockway House, the ILEA Offices, to protest against the threatened closure of schools in Hackney and to

demand that no reduction of standards and staff take place. It then moved on to St. Leonard's hospital and ended with a picket of the Area Health Authority (AHA) Offices in Chart Street. Despite a stiff police cordon, staff were able to leave the building and joined the picket outside. A delegation from the hospitals campaign went into the meeting to exhort AHA members to oppose all cuts in spending, to create no redundancies, fill all vacancies as they arise and prevent the closure of all hospitals. Meanwhile outside various speakers, including Stanley Clinton-Davis MP, Danny Ashton of NUSS and campaign organiser Lynsey Roth, told the waiting crowd just what the £5m. savings would mean to the people of East London: closure of hospitals, day centres, the loss of 100's

of public sector jobs and of course the loss of many lives.

When the delegation emerged after an hour or so, they did not hold out any hope that the AHA would throw out the government proposals. Ambulancemen's District Shop Steward Ian Birch said, "I cannot be optimistic"; Doris Garwin said, "I cannot give you any hope for this meeting". The AHA Chairperson's response to the delegation's demands was that the Authority's job was to carry on the 'service' with whatever money they were given. This showed, she went on to say, that the AHA are less concerned with administering the NHS as a vital service to the community, which means ensuring that there is no reduction in standards of safety; instead they "are running it more like a business" and are more worried about whether the books balance or not - even if it means lives are lost as a direct result.



The delegation's fears were unfortunately borne out. The AHA meeting concluded with the decision to implement 'savings', to come into operation on 1st October. This in effect will mean:

the closure of 66 surgical beds at St. Leonard's and the closing down of the Accident & Emergency Dept. in the evenings;

the closure of a children's ward and ophthalmic beds at Bartholomew's.

The fate of St. Matthew's hospital was not discussed at the AHA meeting - but that does not mean it will escape the cuts; this is just one of many rounds in a long and serious operation which, instead of revitalising the ailing limbs of our health and social services, will chop them off and leave them to die in order that profit-making organisation however parasitic, may flourish.

The cuts in public services will be a major political issue in Hackney over the coming months. In this article, David Green, secretary of Hackney Communist Party, puts his view on the main issues.

Public services are vanishing around us. Every day brings news of cuts being made, threatened, planned and opposed. The first Tory budget with its £3,100 million cut in public spending has made this a national problem with an impact in every local community. Already, in Hackney, the NHS is being cut to ribbons, government job schemes for young people have been halted, government money for the purchase and improvement of housing has been stopped and further cuts are on the way or are under consideration. A fightback is underway. The actions of the Hackney Health campaign with the big demonstration and important strike action against the health cuts (see article above), the decision of the Trades Council to organise an action campaign against the cuts drawing in the widest possible number of organisations and the broadest possible support, the opposition of Hackney Council to the cuts together with hundreds of resolutions and actions from union branches, tenants' organisations and others show that the cuts will not pass without a big fight.

The purpose of this article is to analyse the present situation and to make some suggestions about ways in which the fight against cuts can be developed and strengthened.

The present wave of cutbacks in public services stems mainly from the first Tory budget - the most aggressively right wing for over a quarter of a century. In some ways, the ground for this attack had been prepared by the previous Labour government with their mistaken

introduction of cash limits, adherence to the social contract and public spending cuts to please the IMF. But there is a fundamental difference between the new Tory policy and that of the defeated Labour government. The overall Tory aim is to roll back the welfare state and clear the ground for a new, right-wing, private enterprise-dominated society in which private medical insurance, private health treatment and private everything else will be the rule while public services will be just a poor second best. This attack is a class attack threatening the lives and interests of working class people and our families throughout the country. Any discussion of action against the cuts locally must take the national context into account.

Local features

In Hackney, we are affected by many central government programmes and departments, but there are special local features which need analysis. Firstly, Hackney is an inner city partnership area. This has meant that we were significantly shielded from many of the worst effects of the cutbacks under Labour. This is unlikely to remain the case with the Tories' declared intention of ending so-called "favouritism" to the inner cities. Cutbacks in Partnership will have a severe effect on the many voluntary and community groups which have developed in such a positive way in recent years as well as affecting a number of directly-



provided services.

The four main locally administered authorities whose decisions most closely affect our lives are the Area Health Authority, the Inner London Education Authority, the GLC and the Hackney Borough Council.

The actions of the Area Health Authority are well known. It is here that the cutbacks have been most severe. It is this body which is least under the democratic control of local people - local authority and trade union representatives are in a minority. It is the City and East London AHA which has closed so many local hospitals and contributed to an overall reduction in the standard of health care in one of Britain's most deprived areas.

Recent reports suggest that the Inner London Education Authority is looking for "savings" amounting to £25 million in a £500 million budget. ILEA leader Sir Ashley Bramall has said: "We cannot pretend that the savings on this scale will not damage the standard of education in London..."

Particularly significant for Hackney is his statement that

"We will be taking advantage of these falling pupil numbers next year. There will be a cut in the teacher jobs which go with the drop in pupils."

This means that the hope that school reorganisation will lead to improvements will probably be unfulfilled thanks to the Tory cuts.

The Tory-controlled GLC is trying to set the pace as the quickest chopper in the country. Direct labour, housing, land and many other public services are either severely cut back or sold off. The trade unions, tenants and others are fighting but so far have not received enough support to turn back the GLC's attack.

The Hackney Council is one of two London councils which has not yet cut back on Council-provided services in response to the Tory budget and central government orders. For a variety of reasons, the council is underspent and this has given an apparent breathing space until the next financial year in April. Of course, the government cuts in money for housing improvement affect the Council now and may have a devastating long-term impact upon the Direct Labour Organisation - which, like other DLOs, is considered a prime target by the Tories who wish to favour the big private construction firms. The Council leadership have no desire to make cuts to please the Tory government and at their July meeting, made a statement against them and agreed to organise a public meeting on the issue. Within the Labour Party, there is considerable resistance to the cuts, and this may result in Hackney Council joining with others in London in a public campaign against cuts and the unfavourable rate support grant settlement which is expected in November. Neverthe-

less, circulars have already gone round the Council departments asking for information on the impact of 2½%, 5% and 7½% cuts. Next year, if the Tory government manages to force through its cuts, we will suffer big reductions in services, rates increases or both.

Campaign Action

Hackney is particularly dependent upon public services for employment as well as welfare. Natural wastage, job freezing, redundancies, etc. will add to the number of unemployed workers in the borough. Private industry is not going to move in and the Tories are hoping that this will lead to increased competition amongst workers for jobs, undermine trade union organisation and weaken our bargaining power.

The first principle we need to adopt is that it is only by vigorous campaigning action using all the weapons at our disposal including industrial action, that we stand a chance of beating back the Tory attack, avoiding cutbacks and redundancies. Co-operation and unity between working people's organisations and, where possible,



elected local authorities will be vital. This means that the full severity of the attack has to be brought home to people and many more people actively involved. The Hackney Health Campaign has made a tremendous start here which

(cont. on p.5)

Smalley Estate

ARCHITECT REPLIES, COUNCIL DITHERS

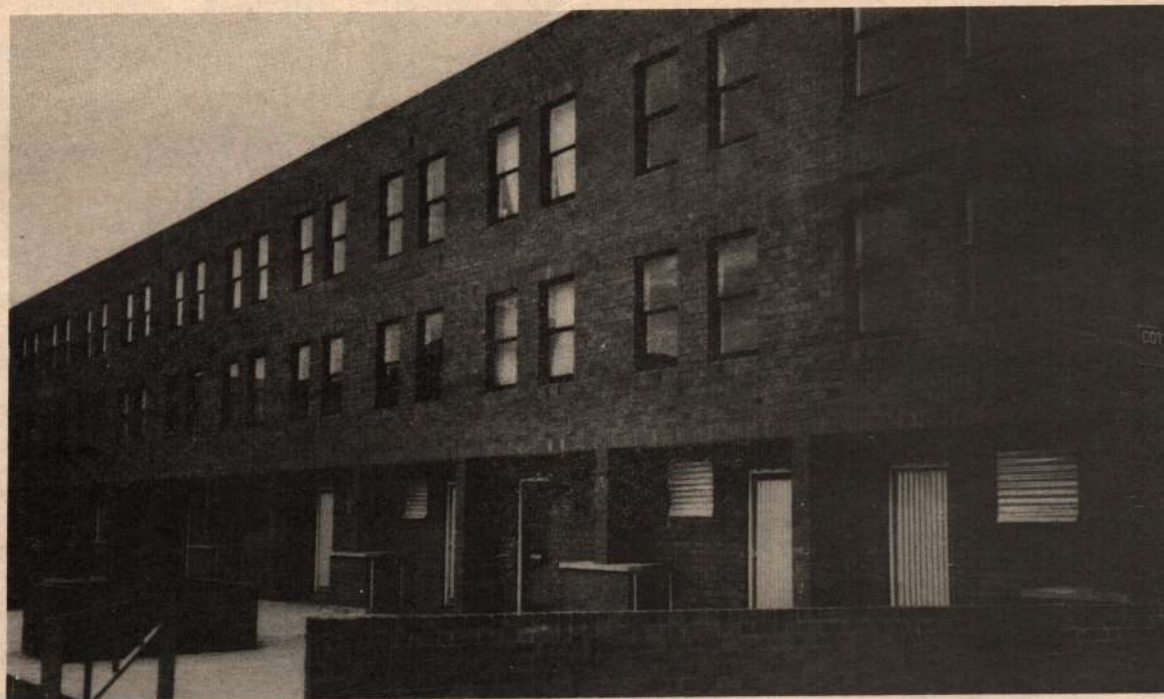
There are now at least two other secret documents about the Smalley estate, we can reveal this month. The first of these is Borough Architect Terry Roberts's reply to the original independent report on the problems of the damp-plagued estate, of which a copy has been received by HPP. (More of this later.)

The second, which has been suspected for some time, but never proved to exist, is a document which Tony Shoultz, the Council's Chief Housing Officer, also commissioned from the special investigators, Building Systems Development Ltd, and which apportions blame for the faults on the estate.

Shoultz apparently received this report at the same time as the other, which was leaked to various papers, including HPP, in July. However, he never even told his deputy of its existence, until he came clean at a meeting held in secret of the two Housing Committees on Monday 17 September, when Terry Roberts defended himself against the accusations made in the first report.

LOOSE

What is now obvious is that the second leaked report blames the architect and that the architect says that it isn't his fault, it's the fault of the regulations, which he says are so loose that any building to the minimum standards required by law is bound to have problems. So the whole issue is likely to become bogged down in a technical argument between one set of experts, the independent investigators, and another set, the Borough Architect and his staff. And meanwhile the tenants are getting more and more fed up, and



are being treated even more badly.

Terry Roberts's reply is some 25 pages long and goes through the independent report section by section. In some parts he is very defensive, in some he is strangely silent. In general, his tone is petulant. He was obviously peeved by the decision to appoint an independent investigation (he complains that the "terms of reference were written without consultation with myself") and he queries Building Systems Development's calculations several times. He obviously is also upset by the leak of the original report (which, you will recall, the Council promised it would publish in full and then chickened out). He describes the investigators' rather dramatic statement, apparently made at an earlier

Committee meeting, that the whole estate might have to be demolished in five years, as "in my view unfounded", as well he might.

So this is how the Architects' Department plan to counterattack. There are apparently some questions being put about the Town Hall corridors as to what exactly the "experts'" qualifications for being expert are.

GENIUS

One doesn't have to be a genius to see that it is in the interest of the Council Architects to say that sort of thing.

And what of the tenants on the estate? The Council claim that the vast majority want

to stay after sending round a questionnaire before they know what work has to be done. Now it is probably true that more than half do, but there is an ever-increasing minority that just want to get out. Particularly heart-rending are those who have waited 20 years or so to get a place on an estate, and after two years all they want to do is move.

The alternative which the Tenants' Association committee wants the Council to consider is to offer a block decant. This would involve moving out all the tenants in one section, doing the necessary repairs and then moving them back in again. If only one block was moved at a time, then each family would only make one move within the estate. However, the Council seems to want to

push on with doing the remedial work with most of the tenants still in their houses. This could create almost impossible situations, and, in the Tenants' Association's view, would also be much less efficient.

They calculate that with 277 dwellings on the estate more than 1,000 appointments will have to be made and kept by various officers with individual tenants. This will be amazingly inefficient and could slow down the remedial works considerably. How much better, they argue, to move everyone out at once, and let workmen get on unhindered, and not having to worry about spilling cement on the carpets or damaging the paintwork.

ALLY

The Tenants' Association has an ally in the (much maligned so far) Architects' Department, who stated at a meeting of the TA, Council officers and members that they would prefer a block decant.

The TA stresses, however, that no firm decision can be taken by any of the tenants until each one knows exactly what the remedial work will entail. And this is where the crunch will really come.

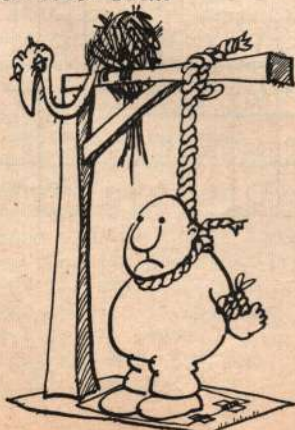
Tony Shoultz wants to appoint Building Systems Development Ltd as independent consultants for the remedial works. The architects want to remain in charge. It looks as though a political decision will have to be made by the relevant committee, or even, given the Broad Left domination of the Housing Committees, by the full Council. That might be when the axe will fall, if it is ever going to do so.

(cont. from p.4)

needs to be supported, developed and extended. We also need to take action with and learn from other areas. The cuts all have their specific local impact but the root of the problem, the origin of the policy is national. The campaigns of the trade union movement - for instance the TGWU campaign against cuts - will be very significant. During these campaigns it is already proving possible to develop new forms of co-operation and democratic participation and consultation in decision-making. In addition, people are becoming clearer, not just about what is bad and needs to be fought against, but also what needs to be struggled for and changed. Any defeats that are suffered need to be considered by the movement as a whole, not just by the administering authority.

The campaign of the Hackney Trades Council against the cuts will be a vital local focus for action bringing the possibility of widespread co-operation and co-ordinated action. The activity of the labour movement in South Yorkshire where the miners' union and the engineers have pledged to take industrial action in support of Labour councils

refusing to implement the cuts and the Labour councils are now uniting with the trade union movement in a campaign against the cuts with a national lobby of Parliament in November indicates the potential of broadly-based campaigns. Lambeth Council has reversed its position and declared that no cuts will be made and is seeking the support of local workers inside and outside Council employment for a lobby of Parliament on November 7. The adoption of a similar approach in our movement and Council in Hackney together with its spreading to other areas and national trade union action will lead to a situation where the Tories, not our public services will be rolled back.



JURY RIGGED IN ANARCHY TRIAL

The twelve people that make up the jury in the trial of six anarchists have already been tried themselves. That is the outcome of the most blatant case of jury-rigging that has been seen in this country since the 18th Century.

In August, before their trial started, the prosecution lawyers applied to the judge to be given the list of the panel of 93 jurors who were going to be summoned to hear the case. The judge gave them the list. Then defence lawyers objected, saying that they should see the list as well. So the judge let them have it (who says the law isn't fair?) and gave them legal aid to employ private detectives to find out all sorts of details about the potential jurors' private lives. Then he changed his mind and told the police that they had to tell the defence what they had found out. It turned out that 19 of the 93 were on the police computer - although most of them didn't actually have criminal records. Then this story was leaked to the "Guardian"



Protest at jury-vetting at the start of the Old Bailey trial.

which printed it on the day the trial was going to start. The judge was not too happy about this, and decided to discharge the jury panel completely.

As this issue goes to press, the police are busy "vetting" another few dozen people, to make sure that they are fit to serve on a jury.

Once there was a principle in law which said that juries were completely random. They were just 12 of your fellow citizens,

who had to judge the case against you on its merits. They weren't lawyers, or policemen, just ordinary people. Of course that's why lawyers and policemen don't like jury trials. Juries sometimes don't believe everything that the police say and are not impressed by judges.

Isn't it time that that sort of principle was upheld in law again, and the right of any person to be tried by his or her fellow citizens be returned?

HACKNEY KIDS camping in Danbury PLACE



On Monday 13th August about 20 of us caught the bus to Liverpool St station, then we caught the train to Chelmsford. After that we caught a bus from Chelmsford to Danbury. We put up our tents (and they took a long time to put up) and then we cooked dinner. Later on in the evening we gambled until it was midnight came, after the little kids went to bed, the rest of

us came together to go for a midnight walk. The staff made up a story about a headless bishop who lived about 200 yards from where we were camping, and tried to frighten us. The next day came and we all got up to have our breakfast, but we couldn't eat it in peace because of all the wasps around us. We went for a shower and came back and played cards again. This was a very long day as we woke up early and went to bed late.

On Wednesday things started to get exciting. We went swimming and went shopping in Chelmsford precinct. We bought some torches and went back to camp.

A few days later we were starting to get bored so we got some long raincoats and covered ourselves with talcum powder and went out scaring people and me and three other boys met some girls.

There was a boy named Roland on the camp and he had lots of fights. We were going to have a fight with some skin-heads but they chickened off and decided to play us at football. They were very easy to beat and we won 11-2. Then they said that they were good at rounders, so we played them the next day, and beat them 7-3.



SCHOOL HOMEWORK

For the first three years you can get away with murder with your homework, because the teachers never ask you for your homework. But, for the next three years it's one hell of a trouble. On Mondays we usually have biology, french maths, and religious knowledge and for all the lessons we have we get homework. If we do not bring in our homework we usually get punished, e.g. detention for thirty minutes, or miss out on the school activities and outings. I think this is because we are coming to the most important stage of school in the last three years, to do our careers and find jobs.

the cane is out

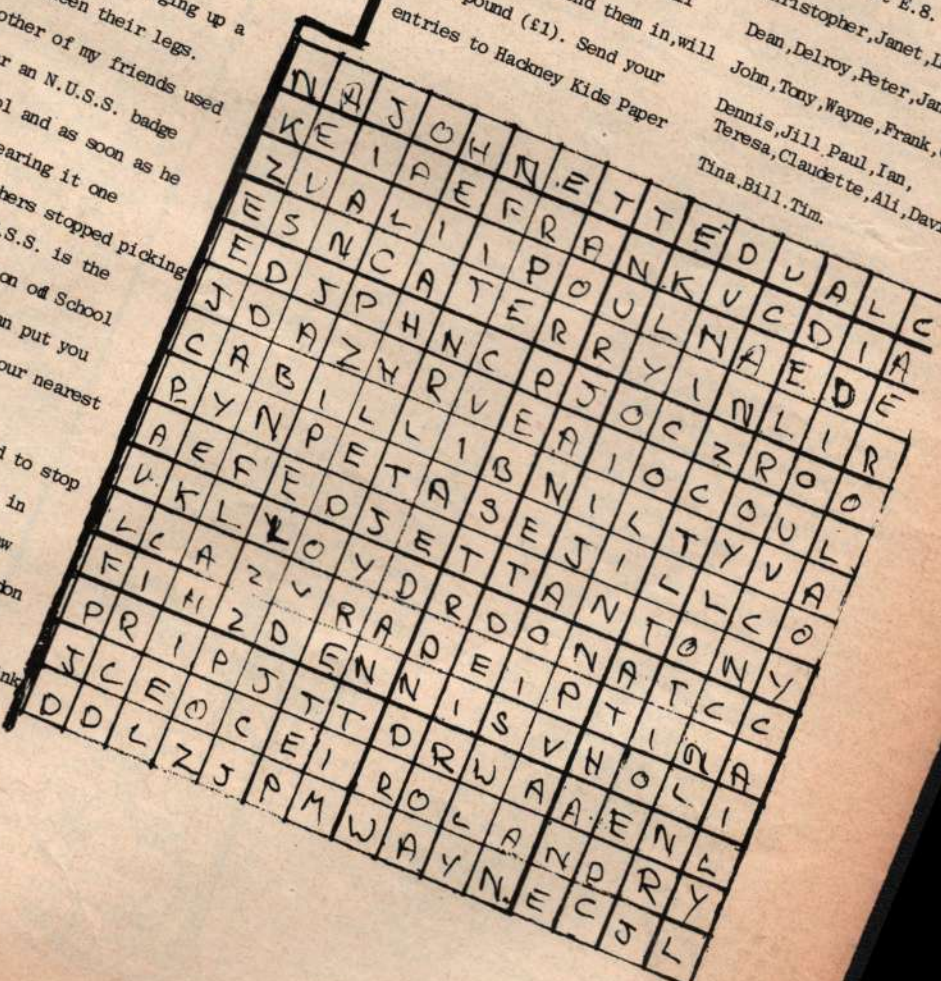


in primary schools a long time ago. Corporal punishment is usually given by the headteacher or the head of a house, and when you first go to school and you do something wrong you most probably won't get caned. We talked about caning while we were producing the paper this month, and we thought it was good that it was going to be banned, as people won't get the cane for something they haven't done any more. Somebody said that if caning is banned schools might lose discipline and get out of hand, but other people said that there are plenty of other ways of punishing kids, and that caning just teaches you not to get caught. One of my friends got caned for not standing up on a train for a lady to sit down. Someone else got hit with a ruler for not being able to spell WHO and ordered to spell WHO and he spelled it H.W.O., and he got hit with a ruler. Then the teacher asked him again, and he got it right and the teacher hit him again and said "Remember it". The same kid has made the same mistake about ten times now, and he

Corporal Punishment. Most secondary schools in Hackney have corporal punishment even though most of the teachers in the Hackney Teachers Association don't approve of it. Sometimes you get the cane and sometimes the slipper. Even some primary schools have corporal punishment even though it was banned

ENTER THE GREAT WORDSEARCH COMPETITION

There are 23 names in the wordsearch competition. The first person to get all the names and send them in, will win a pound (£1). Send your entries to Hackney Kids Paper c/o Centerprise, 136, Kingsland High St E.8. Christopher, Janet, Lloyd, Dean, Delroy, Peter, Jane, John, Tony, Wayne, Frank, Colin, Dennis, Jill, Paul, Ian, Teresa, Claudette, Ali, David Tina, Bill, Tim.



information

All listings on this page are inserted absolutely FREE.

The information on this page has been revised and updated, but we would welcome any further corrections or additions. For the November issue please send them to us by FRIDAY 26 OCTOBER. Our address is HPP, c/o 136 Kingsland High Street, London E8.

Community, Tenants and Pensioners Groups

HACKNEY PENSIONERS ASSOCIATION
34 Dalston Lane, E8
Advice service on Tuesday and Thursdays from 10.30 to 4pm. Tea Bar Monday to Friday 10.30 to 4pm.

TASK FORCE
34 Dalston Lane, E8. Tel. 254 1620
Free advice for pensioners in Hackney. Odd jobs and visits in N16 and N4 only. Pensioners' activities and neighbourhood care in N5.

HACKNEY ASSOCIATION FOR WELFARE OF OLD PEOPLE
22 Dalston Lane, E8. Tel. 254 0715

HARAMBEE 2 PROJECT
74 Downham Road N1.
Social and advice centre, aimed particularly at black people.
Tuesday 10am-10pm
Thursday 10am-4.30pm
Friday 10am-10pm

OFF CENTRE
25 Hackney Grove, E8. Tel. 985 8566
Advice for young people between 13 and 25 with any problems.
Monday-Friday 10am-6pm (open until 8.30pm on Thursdays).

FRIENDS ANONYMOUS SERVICE
Friendship House, 27 Hackney Grove, E8.
24 hour telephone service with people always willing to listen and act.
986 2233 (24 hours)
985 0973 (office hours)
986 9146

FEDERATION OF HACKNEY TENANTS ASSOCIATIONS
Represents borough, GLC and private tenants throughout Hackney. Contact joint secretaries for details: Bob Darke, 154 Trelawney Estate, Paragon Road, E8 and Steve Jacobs, c/o ALHE, 17 Victoria Park Square, E2 (981 1221).

HACKNEY GINGERBREAD
Group for one parent families. Meets every Monday at the Family Centre, Rectory Road, N16. Creche available. Contact Teresa Blackhall, 729 1647 for details.

HOMERTON GINGERBREAD
Group for one parent families. Meets every other Friday at the Wally Foster Centre. Contact 985 3972 for details.

Ecology

HACKNEY FRIENDS OF THE EARTH
Active group, campaigning on safe energy, bikes, wildlife, recycling etc. Contact Jim Read, 67 Fairholt Road, N16. 802 0122.

HACKNEY ANTI-NUCLEAR GROUP
Open to all those wishing to combat nuclear power. Meets every other Thursday in Centerprise. Contact 226 1799

SUN POWER ECOLOGY CENTRE
83, Blackstock Road, N.4.
Bookshop specialises in the environment, cooking, health, education, children's books; also crafts and some wholefoods. 01 226 1799

HACKNEY SOCIETY

An amenity group, affiliated to the Civic Trust, concerned with Hackney's environment and architecture. Meets on the third Monday of each month.
Details from Chairman, David Batchelor, Tel. 985 7937 or Secretary, Robert Hill, 75 Glyn Road E5 Tel. 986 8761.

Women

HACKNEY SOCIALIST FEMINIST GROUP
Meet alternate Mondays at the Factory, Matthias Road, N 16, at 7.30pm. Contact Pat 254 5821 or Harriet 254 6208.

RAPE CRISIS CENTRE
Tel. 340 6145. 24 hour information and advice.

HACKNEY ABORTION CAMPAIGN
Meetings fortnightly at 20 Parkholme Road, E8. Contact 249 3768 for details.

HACKNEY COMMUNIST PARTY WOMEN'S GROUP

Meets monthly - talks, films, activities. For information phone Nathalie 254 9508.

HACKNEY LABOUR PARTY HACKNEY NORTH AND STOKE NEWINGTON
Constituents advice service at 7pm every Friday at 5 Stamford Hill, N16 when local councillors are present.

Ken Livingstone, GLC councillor, has advice service generally on 4th Thursday of each month.
Details from 5 Stamford Hill, N16. Tel. 800 7430.

HACKNEY NORTH LABOUR PARTY YOUNG SOCIALISTS: for details contact secretary, Mumtaz Khan, c/o 5 Stamford Hill, N16.

HACKNEY SOUTH & SHOREDITCH
Constituents advice service at 7.30pm, every Friday at 96 Dalston Lane, E8. Ron Brown, MP, available 2nd and 4th Friday of each month. Margaret Morgan, GLC Councillor, available 1st Friday of each month. Local councillors every Friday. Advice service also operates at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Bletchley Street, N1, at 7pm, on 1st and 3rd Fridays. Ron Brown is present on 1st and 3rd Fridays, Margaret Morgan on 3rd Fridays, and local councillors on 1st and 3rd Fridays.
HACKNEY SOUTH LABOUR PARTY YOUNG SOCIALISTS: for details contact secretary c/o 96 Dalston Lane, E8.
HACKNEY CENTRAL
Constituents advice service at 7.30pm, every Friday at 96 Dalston Lane, E8. Stanley Clinton Davis, MP, available every Friday. Ellis Hillman, GLC Councillor, available every other Friday. Local councillors every Friday.
HACKNEY CENTRAL LABOUR PARTY YOUNG SOCIALISTS: for details contact Mrs A Smith, 294 Navarino Mansions, E8.

HACKNEY YOUNG COMMUNIST LEAGUE
Meets weekly. All young people welcome.
HACKNEY COMMUNIST PARTY
Twelve branches hold meetings regularly throughout the borough. All welcome.

HACKNEY MORNING STAR GROUP
Meets weekly. Organises political, social and fund-raising events in support of Britain's socialist daily paper, the Morning Star. All Morning Star readers/supporters welcome.

For further information and a copy of the monthly newsletter detailing the meetings, campaigning actions etc. organised by the Hackney Morning Star group, Young Communist League and Communist Party contact David Green, 126 Amhurst Road, E8. Tel. 249 6374.

LONDON WORKERS GROUP
For independent militants, working anarchists and all those who wish to organise for direct workers control. Meets fortnightly. Contact Box W, Rising Free, 182 Upper Street, N1, or ring Dave, 249 7042.

ANARCHY COLLECTIVE
Produces ANARCHY, a seasonal magazine on sale in Centerprise and Rising Free, 20p. Also involved in general anarchist activity. Ring 359 4794 before 8pm.

LIBERTARIAN COMMUNIST GROUP
c/o 136 Kingsland High Street, E8.

ANARCHIST COMMUNIST ASSOCIATION
Box 11, Rising Free, 182 Upper Street, N1.

HACKNEY COMMITTEE AGAINST RACIALISM
All-party anti-racist campaign. Meets first Wednesday of each month at the Family Centre, Rectory Road, N16.

SOCIALIST PARTY OF GREAT BRITAIN HACKNEY GROUP
Meets second Thursday of every month at 8pm at Centerprise, 136 Kingsland High Street E8.

HACKNEY SOCIALIST CHALLENGE SUPPORTERS GROUP
fortnightly on Thursdays at 7.30pm in the Britannia, Mare St.
Further details from Hackney SC, c/o PO Box 50, London N11, or from Martin, 359 8180 (day).

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL Hackney Group.
Meets 2nd Tuesday of each month, 8.00 at: Friendship House, 27, Hackney Grove, (off Reading Lane) E.8.

NORTH HACKNEY ANTI NAZI LEAGUE
Meets fortnightly. Contact Box 9, c/o 136, Kingsland High Street, E.8.

NEW COMMUNIST PARTY Hackney Branch meets on a Tuesday night at Centerprise, 8pm. Information from NCP, 395 Walworth Road, SE17 2AW.

Transport

HACKNEY PUBLIC TRANSPORT ACTION COMMITTEE
Meets regularly to discuss how to improve public transport in Hackney. Contact Tony Jacobs, 3 Hockley House, Morning Lane, E9. Tel. 986 2303.

HACKNEY CYCLISTS ACTION GROUP
Contact Tessa Bain, 10 Kynaston Road, N.16. 254 4559

Community Centres

CENTERPRISE
136 Kingsland High Street, E8. Tel. 254 9632.
Bookshop and office hours:
Tuesday-Saturday 10am-6.30pm.
Coffee bar and meeting room hours:
Tuesday-Friday 10am-9.30pm.
Saturday 10am-5.30pm.
FACILITIES:
Coffee bar; bookshop; advice, information and contacts for individuals and groups. Typewriters can be used free, duplicating at cost price. Ask in General Office.
ADVICE CENTRE:
Legal and welfare advice session on Thursdays 6.30-7.30pm.
READING CENTRE:
For adults who find it hard to read or write. Contact Sue Shrapnell or ring 254 9635.
PUBLISHING PROJECT:
Publishing books by people who live in Hackney.

WALLY FOSTER CENTRE
Homerton Road, E9. Tel. 985 3972.
Community Centre with many activities:
SOCIAL SERVICES ADVICE CENTRE: every weekday 9am-5pm.
ADULT LITERACY CLASSES:
Every Monday at 7pm.
Also playgroup, mothers and toddlers group, pensioners lunch club, school welfare advice, youth club for 5-8 year olds, Kung Fu and juvenile dance classes.
See also **ADVICE** and **NEIGHBOURHOOD ENGLISH** CLASSES listings.

THE FACTORY
107 Matthias Road, N16 (next to Newington Green School). Tel. 249 3066.
Runs mothers and toddlers clubs, sewing classes, English classes, youth club, childminders drop-in group (creche provided), after school club, arts and crafts club, pensioners lunch club, food co-op and an Indian dance class.
Contact them for further details.

THE FAMILY CENTRE
50 Rectory Road, N16. Tel. 249 8334.
Information and help for all community problems. Cooking, washing, creche facilities.
Mothers and toddlers group on Thursdays, 1.30-3.30pm (homeworkers especially welcome).
"Encourage your child to read" class on Mondays, 5.30-7.30pm. Supplementary school now operating.
Classes on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturdays.
Contact them for further information.
Also see **ADVICE** and **Neighbourhood English** classes and **Gingerbread** under **COMMUNITY GROUPS** listings on this page.

HOXTON HALL
128a Hoxton Street, N1. Tel. 739 5431.
Runs playgroup, pensioners lunch club, legal advice centre, after-school junior club and writers' workshop as well as evening classes in shoe repairing, dressmaking, pottery, crafts, old-time dancing and singing. Also Women's Discussion Group and the Hoxton Drama Group.
Many events take place in the theatre each month—see the **EVENTS** and **MEETINGS** section. Also see **ADVICE** listing.

Education

ADULT LITERACY CLASSES
For details of adult literacy courses in your area contact:

Carol Morris, BETHNAL GREEN AEI, 229 Bethnal Green Road, E2. 739 7790.
Donald Kenrick, CLAPTON AEI, Brooke House, Kenninghall Road, E5. 985 9646.
Graham Morris, HACKNEY COLLEGE, 249 7221.

June Hewes, HACKNEY LIBRARIES, Shoreditch Library, Pittfield Street, N1. 739 5153.
Sue Shrapnell, HACKNEY READING CENTRE, 136 Kingsland High Street, E8. 254 9635.
Cal Weatherald, Highbury Manor AEI, Jack Ashley School, Blackstock Road, N4 226 9190.
John Rake, HOXTON HALL, 128a Hoxton Street, N1. 739 5431.

HACKNEY LANGUAGE SCHEME
Teach the kind of English needed in day-to-day life. Classes operate throughout Hackney. For further information contact Annette Giles, 249 1496, or call at the Family Centre, Rectory Road, N.16 on Thursday mornings.

Meditation

PARTNERSHIP FOR PROGRESS IN HACKNEY
Simple, natural, effortless transcendental meditation technique realizes full creative potential. Introductory talks: 8pm Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at 51 Downs Park Road, E8. Tel 254 6280.

ANANDA MARGA
1 Cazenove Road, N.16.

For spiritual progress and social change.
Meditation classes for men Wednesday 8.00pm
Meditation classes for women Tuesday 8.00pm and Wednesday 2.00pm.
Sewing class Tuesday 7.00pm.

Off Centre

Drop-in centre for Young Unemployed.

Free snacks, use of telephones and newspapers. A meeting place for the young unemployed.
Off Centre Basement.
25 Hackney Grove, E8. 986 4016.

Advice

Free legal advice on housing, landlord and tenant, employment, social security, welfare, matrimonial, immigration and discrimination problems can be obtained from the following centres:

CENTERPRISE
136 Kingsland High Street, E8. Tel. 254 9632.
THURSDAYS 6.30-7.30pm.

HOXTON HALL
128a Hoxton Street, N1. Tel. 739 5431.
WEDNESDAYS 7-8pm.

KINGSMEAD
Wally Foster Centre, Homerton High Street, E9. Tel. 985 3804.

STOKE NEWINGTON ADVICE GROUP SERVICE.
102 Manor Road, N16. Tel. 800 3710.
MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS 7-8pm.

ALLEN ROAD
12 Allen Road, N16.
THURSDAYS 7-8pm.

Advice can also be obtained from:

HACKNEY ADVICE BUREAU & LAW CENTRE
236-8 Mare Street, E8. Tel. 986 8446.
Open Monday-Friday 10am-5pm (7.30 on Thursdays).
Legal aid and advice on housing, rents, repairs and employment problems.

CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAUX
1-11 Hoxton Street, N1. Tel. 739 4654.
106 Old Street EC1. Tel. 253 2155.

HACKNEY COUNCIL FOR RACIAL EQUALITY. 245 Mare St, E8.
TUESDAYS 7-8.30pm.
Immigration, discrimination, housing law and other problems. 986 4121.

THE FAMILY CENTRE
50 Rectory Road, N16. Tel. 249 8334.
Information and help in all community problems. Cooking, washing, creche facilities. Open all day.

HOUSING ADVICE CENTRE
302-4 Mare Street, E8. Tel. 986 8123.
Help with all housing problems. Repairs, rebates, landlord/tenant, council/tenant.

HACKNEY CENTRAL INFORMATION BUREAU
Town Hall, Mare Street, E8. Tel. 986 3123.

HACKNEY NORTH LABOUR PARTY ADVICE CENTRE
5 Stamford Hill, N16.
Advice and information on legal, financial, welfare, housing, social security and personal problems.
FRIDAYS 7-8pm.

RECTORY HOUSING AND WELFARE ADVICE CENTRE
Family Centre, 50 Rectory Road, N16.
Help with housing, employment, health and social security and community and race relations problems.
SUNDAYS 10.30am-12.00 noon.

Advice can also be obtained from **HARAMBEE 2 PROJECT, OFF CENTRE** and **FRIENDS ANONYMOUS**. See Community Groups listing on this page.

For MPs and councillors Advice surgeries see **LABOUR PARTY** under **POLITICAL GROUPS** listing on this page.

Arrested? Helping enquiries? Evicted?
EMERGENCY LEGAL SERVICE
Ring 986 9891. 24 hour free legal service from 6pm Friday over whole weekend.

Workshops

THE WORKSHOP
81 Lenthall Road, E8. Tel. 254 3082.
Print your own posters and T-shirts. Cost of materials only. Open by arrangement.

COMET WORKSHOP
Halcob Street, N1. Tel. 729 0936.
Learn sewing, macrame, toymaking, woodwork. Creche available, toy library. Tea and coffee. Open every weekday.

WORKSHOP
77a, Lauriston Road, E.9.
01 986 9585 Open 10.00 - 6.00 Mon. - Sat.
Pottery workshop and shop selling ceramics and pottery handmade in the workshop. Also Macrame plant hangers, jewellery, cards and other crafts.

Gays

GAY SWITCHBOARD
Tel. 837 7324. 24 hour information and advice.

EAST LONDON CHE (Campaign for Homosexual Equality)
East London CHE welcomes gay women and men. For details phone John, 504 1110 or Kate, 539 2331.

GEMMA
Gemma Group for Disabled Lesbians, including older women. Contact BM Box 5700, London WC1V 6XX.

TOY LIBRARY
Family Centre, 50 Rectory Road, N.16. A new toy library for all children under 5. Play facilities tea. Every Tuesday 2-3.30pm. Contact Sue Corlett 806 1968.

Health

CITY AND HACKNEY COMMUNITY HEALTH COUNCIL
Shoreditch Health Centre, 210 Kingsland Road, E2. Tel. 739 6308/8351.
The public's voice in the NHS—provides advice, takes up your complaints and criticisms. Open meeting on 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6.30pm. Publishes **HEALTH IN HACKNEY**: a comprehensive FREE guide to health facilities and services in the area.

HANDICAPPED CHILDREN IN HACKNEY
Advice, ideas, information. Trying to contact all families in district with a handicapped child. Contact Ann Purdon, 48 Mount Pleasant Lane, E5. Tel. 808 8436.

Volunteers needed at: Huddleston Centre, St James the Great Church, Lower Clapton Rd. E.5. 01 985 8869.

THE BIRTH CENTRE
188 Old Street, EC1. Tel. 251 4076.
Information, advice, lectures and seminars on birth at home and in hospital.
Open evening every Wednesday 8pm. 25p.

EAST LONDON WOMEN'S HEALTH GROUP
c/o 116 Albion Drive, E8.

STOKE NEWINGTON HEALTH GROUP
Local people interested in all matters concerned with health. Contact Alan Clarke, 21 Kynaston Road, N.16. 254 3277.

COMMUNITY HEALTH FOUNDATION
188 Old Street, EC1. 251 4076.

WOMEN'S NATIONAL CANCER CONTROL CAMPAIGN

Hackney & District branch.
Meets at John Scott Health Centre, Green Lanes, N4.
Contact Rose McNulty 800 3108 (evenings) or Hilda Burd 800 2124 (anytime).

Children

HACKNEY UNDER FIVES
136 Kingsland High Street, E8.

Information and support for parents with children under school age. Stores open on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Open monthly meetings on 3rd Tuesday of each month. Tel 254 9145.

HACKNEY PLAY ASSOCIATION
136 Kingsland High Street, E8. Tel. 254 9145.
Information, advice and help to people organising play facilities for children. Contact Lilian McFetridge

CHILD-CARE BULLETIN COLLECTIVE
112b Forest Road E8.
Publishes bulletins and pamphlets about child care and related topics. Collective is open to anyone interested. Contact 226 0817 or 254 2227 for details of next meeting—with creche.

Food

TOWARDS JUPITER
191 Mare Street E8. 985 5394
Wholefood shop also selling books and crafts.
FOOD FOR ALL
3 Cazenove Road, N16. Tel. 806 4138.
Wholefood shop, also selling books and crafts.

SHANTI VEGETARIAN RESTAURANT
1 Cazenove Road, N.16

Vegetarian meals.
Wed, Thurs and Fri 7.00-9.00pm.
Sat 12.00-2.00pm.
Full vegetarian meal 65p.

Vegetarian cookery classes:
Wed 5.30pm and Sat 10.30am.

Music

POETRY AND MUSIC CLUB
The Chatterbox, 1a, Chatterton Rd, (off Blackstock Rd.) Finsbury Park, N.4.
Weds. 8.00 - 11.00 p.m.
All welcome. 20p admission. Performers free.

ISLINGTON & HACKNEY MUSIC WORKSHOP
Sing-song third Thursday every month. 8pm. Free.
Ring Dave 249 0025.

HACKNEY CHESS CLUB
Weds. 7.30pm - 10.30pm
Fri. 7.30pm - 10.00pm
Centerprise Daily
Tues. - Sat.
For any information contact T. Wilson, 135, Manor Road, N.16 5PB.

MORE ABOUT LORRIES & ROADS



Ball's Pond Road residents demonstrate against the juggernauts



A typical scene on Ball's Pond Road at Dalston Junction

As reported in last month's HPP, the Ball's Pond Road anti-lorry group had a day of action a few weeks ago. They demonstrated at Dalston Junction and distributed leaflets to rush-hour traffic. Wide interest was shown and support given to the campaign by the drivers in the queues. The response of lorry drivers to the campaign has so far been mixed, predictably, but a substantial number are sympathetic

because they dislike having to drive along unsuitable roads as much as the campaigners dislike them being there. Support has also come in the form of virtually the entire staff of Hackney and Clapton bus garages who also object to the hold-ups caused by juggernauts.

At the time of going to press, the Ball's Pond Road campaign had received two replies to letters they had written, one from Horace

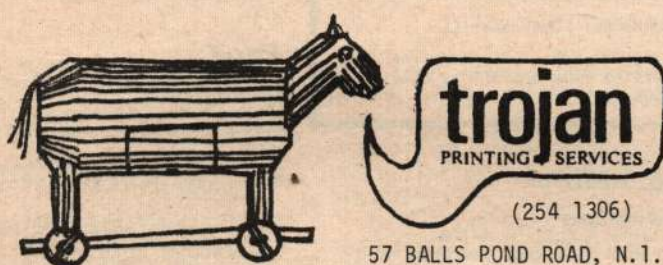
Cutler, leader of the GLC, and one from Simon Turney, GLC councillor for the north side of Ball's Pond Road. They both said they are on holiday. However, Sir Horace has been quick enough to comment in recent weeks about his plan to drive a road through Southwark and the Isle of Dogs to serve his other hair-brained scheme - the 1984 Olympics in Docklands.

Travellers along Ball's Pond Road around the middle of September may have noticed two people standing by the pelican crossing all day long for two weeks armed with notebooks and electronic measuring equipment and may have wondered what they were doing there. When asked by an HPP reporter what they were measuring, one of the men snapped back that it had nothing to do with the lorries, and when pressed further, said:

"I am counting the number of people using the crossing." The denial of the accusation before the accusation was made and the presentation of a plainly incorrect answer leads one to the obvious conclusion that it was about the lorries.

Are the GLC secretly taking notice of our complaints and measuring them for themselves or merely taking measurements to help them with their so-called "improvements"?

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LEAFLETS:-

DUPLICATED

100 SHEETS PRINTED 1 SIDE = 60p
2 SIDES = 70p

PHOTO/ELECTRIC STENCILS 75p COMMERCIAL
50p COMMUNITY

OFFSET-LITHO (A4 SIZE ONLY)
PHONE FOR QUOTE

BADGES:-

HIRE OF MACHINE:

£2 PER 24 HOURS & PARTS AT 10p EACH

ORDERS: STANDING CHARGE 50p FOR ONE COLOUR
£1.50 FOR 2 COLOURS
THEN 12p EACH FOR FIRST 50
10p EACH FOR SECOND 50
9p EACH THEREAFTER

T-SHIRTS:- £1.50 EACH MINIMUM ORDER 20
FOR TWO COLOUR DESIGN ADD 10p PER T-SHIRT

POSTERS:- DEPEND ON SIZE, QUALITY, COLOURS.

E.G. 100 @ 20" BY 30" 1 COLOUR = £10

We will be pleased to quote for other work we do such as SIGNWRITING, PHOTOGRAPHIC DEVELOPING and MURAL PAINTING.

NATIONAL HOMEWORKING CAMPAIGN CONFERENCE, Saturday October 13, 11 am - 5 pm at St Pancras Church House, Lancing St., London NW1. Jointly organised by the London Homeworking Campaign and the Low Pay Unit. Sessions on low pay, health and safety, the legal status of homeworkers, grassroots action, cooperatives, role of trade unions and local authorities on solving homeworkers' problems.

Creche available, but please book in advance. Details from Lynn Hood on 802 5108, 39 Cranwich Road, N16.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL (Hackney branch) will be meeting as follows:

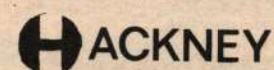
Tuesday 9 October: Dalston Library; discussion on Guatemala.

Tuesday November 14: Hackney Synagogue; Midnight Express and prisons in the Soviet Union.

For further details, please contact Gualter de Mello, 121 Amhurst Road, E8.

PICKET! Hackney Hospital, October 13 at 2 pm. No running down of services: our right to choose, not the doctors! Come to a public meeting against the Corrie Bill in the third week of October. Phone 249 4603 for details. Join the fight for proper day-care abortion facilities in Hackney. Phone number above if you can help or need further information.

this month in



CENTERPRISE open evening, on Monday October 22 at 7.30 pm. All welcome. Meet the workers and council of management, visit the different projects. Refreshments will be provided.

ONE ON ONE basketball game - a free film showing at Centerprise 136 Kingsland High St., on Friday October 12 at 7.30 pm. All welcome.

HACKNEY WOMEN'S AID Annual General Meeting is to be held in Centerprise on Wednesday October 24 at 8 pm.

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS. A two day conference on children's rights will be held at the City University on Saturday and Sunday 20 and 21 October. This is in support of the International Year of the Child. The conference is being organised by the Advisory Centre for Education and further information can be obtained from them at 18 Victoria Park Square, E2. (980 4596).

HACKNEY PEOPLE'S PRESS

HACKNEY PEOPLE'S PRESS is an alternative non-profit making monthly newspaper produced by an open group of people who live or work in Hackney. We publish the paper because we believe that Hackney needs an alternative to the commercial press to serve the real interests of its people. We have no editor, no shareholders, no commercial advertising and no party political backing.

HPP is your newspaper: anyone who lives or works in Hackney is welcome to come and help us. No one is paid by the paper and all decisions are made collectively.

We hold meetings every Monday (except the last one in each month) at 8pm in Centerprise, 136 Kingsland High Street, E8. You can come along to one of these meetings and volunteer to help us write, produce or sell the next issue - or simply tell us what you think of the paper.

If you can't come one Monday then write to us c/o Centerprise or ring 249 0311 any evening or weekend.

HPP is sold through various newsagents and shops throughout Hackney. If you think that your newsagent would like to sell it, on sale or return, then please contact us. And if you don't think that you can spare the time to become more fully involved, but you enjoy reading HPP and think more people should read it, then please get in touch if you are willing to sell a few copies to your friends or neighbours or at meetings.

Subscribe!

Take out a subscription to HPP and guarantee regular delivery! Just send a cheque or PO for £2 for one year's subscription to Hackney People's Press, c/o 136 Kingsland High Street, E8.

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